

## KAISER SEEKING GOOD OFFICES OF U. S. IN SEA WAR

Bernstorff Says Answer Paves  
Way to Mediation.

Lansing in Conference Today  
With German Envoy.

## PLUNGERS ARE NOW CURBED

To Be No More Incidents Like  
Lusitania Horror.

Move to Settle Whole Contro-  
very Over Ocean Rights.

Washington, July 16.—That German Ambassador von Bernstorff suggested to Secretary Lansing today a plan that he believes will serve as an entering wedge for peace negotiations in Europe, was confirmed this afternoon on reliable authority.

Washington, July 16.—Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, told Secretary Lansing today he believed the German reply to the last American note on submarine warfare presented opportunity for further diplomatic negotiations.

The ambassador conferred with Lansing an hour.

In the absence of President Wilson, Secretary Lansing was unable to inform the ambassador what course the United States would pursue in its next note, but he heard with much interest Count Bernstorff's explanation of the purpose of the German government to satisfy public opinion at home on the maintenance of submarine warfare, and at the same time to maintain friendly relations with the United States.

No More Outrages on Neutrals.

The ambassador personally is convinced there will be no repetition of the Lusitania disaster, and that German submarines now are exercising great precaution to avoid incidents which might inflame public opinion in the United States.

With that idea in mind, he urged the United States take advantage of the intimation in Berlin's reply that Germany would be willing to have the entire question of freedom of the sea

## MINERS STAND PAT

British Officials Pin Faith to  
Today's Conference.

David Lloyd-George May Go  
Into Welsh Fields.

London, July 16.—The South Wales miners today are showing an unbroken front in conformity with the resolution passed at the meeting of delegates at Cardiff yesterday, when it was decided to reject the recommendation of the executive committee that the men return to work.

Even the men in one district who last night decided to resume work reversed their decision and not a pick is moving.

An improvement in the situation, however, is expected as a result of mass meetings in the various districts today and the conferences of Walter Runciman, the president of the board of trade, with representatives of the miners and the pit owners.

The men's leaders, who throughout have opposed the strike, are inclined to the view that a resumption of work may be expected Monday and that the government's prompt action in setting up a general munitions tribunal for Wales and Monmouthshire is thought likely to help to bring about a settlement.

Should the Runciman conference today not turn out favorably, David Lloyd-George, the minister of munitions, possibly will visit the trouble district. His influence with the men in previous disputes has been very effective.

In the meantime perfect peace reigns in the coal fields.

## French Trawler Sunk; 10 Drown.

Calais, July 16.—Ten of the crew of the French trawler Nieuport lost their lives when the vessel was mined and sunk off this port yesterday.

## PRESIDENT WILSON ALWAYS IS CLOSELY GUARDED NOW.

Windsor, Vt., July 16.—Few persons realize today, not even the natives of this section, how carefully the president was guarded on his recent visit here. It was officially denied that any extra or unusual precautions were taken, the third time the president has occupied "Harlakenden House" as a summer residence. But there was a strong army of secret service men on guard day and night.

"S. S."—as the secret service is known—headquarters were maintained in a room in the village postoffice in this city. Private telephones connected the president's home and the secret service headquarters. They had a private phone system. They worked in shifts, taking turns patrolling the grounds of the Harlakenden estate during the night.

The secret service men had special automobiles to follow the president on all his drives through the surrounding mountain country. "Joe" Murphy sat in the president's own car and another loaded with operatives trailed closely, containing the chief executive. On the country drives, no automobile or team was allowed to pass the president from behind. This rule, while well known in Washington, was quickly learned by persons driving vehicles in this section.

## RAIL HEAD REFUSES \$250,000 A YEAR TO MAKE WAR MUNITIONS

Chicago, July 16.—Samuel Morse Felton, president of the Chicago Great Western railway and receiver and president of the Pere Marquette line, has refused a salary of \$250,000 a year to superintend making war munitions for Russia, according to the Chicago Herald today.

The paper understands Felton was offered a two-year contract to construct the Baldwin locomotive works' new \$2,500,000 plant and later the management of it during the manufacture of \$80,000,000 worth of war munitions for the Russian government.

## BIG FLOOD AT K. C.

River, at High Mark of Last  
Month, Still Rises.

More Rain Will Force Stage to  
Thirty Feet.

Kansas City, Mo., July 16.—Kansas City today faced a serious flood situation, according to announcement by the local weather bureau.

At noon today the Missouri river here had reached twenty-seven feet, the high water mark of last month, when residents and business houses in the lowlands were forced to move to high ground. The river was fast rising and should there be continued rains the weather bureau announced the river here probably would go to 30 feet.

Should the thirty foot stage be reached, the big packing house and wholesale district in the bottoms probably would be inundated. Already miles of lowlands have been flooded and truck farmers forced to leave their homes.

Railroad service both east and west is badly crippled.

## Bridges Swept Out.

St. Joseph, Mo., July 16.—Although there was more rain in the flood-stricken district of northwest Missouri this morning, it was not heavy and the high water situation was generally improved. This county was hard hit last night when flood waters from above carried out two big bridges on One Hundred and Two river, several miles east of St. Joseph.

The railroad situation north and east of St. Joseph is deplorable. Train service on some roads is entirely abandoned and on the others schedules are demoralized as a result of detouring to avoid water and washouts. It is likely that regular train service on a number of C. & O. & Q. branch lines will not be resumed for weeks. The Santa Fe's line east is in bad conditions and other roads have suffered greatly. The damage to the railways

## IS SOAKED AGAIN

Kaw Valley Comes In for An-  
other Drenching.

All the Streams Are on the  
Rise.

Again the Kaw valley has received soaking rains which ranged from .33 of an inch at Topeka to 1.40 inches at Wamego and 3.40 inches at Clay Center. The rain came early this morning, the heavy precipitation being confined largely to the Kaw watershed. The Kaw river is expected to begin to rise at Topeka by tonight and Saturday the stage will be at least eighteen feet, according to the local weather man.

All the leading Kaw tributaries show a rise today. The Smoky Hill at Abilene was 12.4 feet as against 13.2 Thursday. At Blue Rapids the Blue showed a twenty-four hour rise of 6.8 feet, the stage being 20 feet. Bank full stage is 21 feet. The Republican at Clay Center reached a stage of 19.8 feet today, a rise of 3.5 feet since Thursday. The situation at Kansas City is serious. The stage of the Missouri river at that place today was 26.9 feet, whereas bank full stage is but 2 feet. The Kaw at Wamego showed a rise of but 1.7 feet in twenty-four hours.

The stage of the Kaw at Topeka today was 15.8 feet, a twenty-four hour fall of 2.4 feet.

The rain at Topeka began at 5:30 o'clock and continued until 7:30. The minimum temperature was 67 degrees, or one degree below normal. The forecast calls for partly cloudy weather tonight and Saturday with the probability of showers.

The next forty days should be fair if there is anything to the old belief that the weather on St. Swifth's day will prevail in the days to follow. As no rain fell in the twenty-four hours ending at twelve o'clock Thursday night, the next forty days should be dry.

St. Swifth was the Bishop of Winchester, England. He died in 862. The weather has been comparatively pleasant today. The wind was blowing from the west and a cold wave this afternoon. "Sunny" Flora, the weather man, stated this afternoon that a near bank full river stage is expected at Topeka by Saturday evening, possibly 20 feet. Bank full stage is 21 feet.

The hourly readings:

7 o'clock..... 67 11 o'clock..... 78  
8 o'clock..... 69 12 o'clock..... 81  
9 o'clock..... 73 1 o'clock..... 82  
10 o'clock..... 76 2 o'clock..... 82

The Kaw began to rise this morning. The stage was 16.4 this afternoon, a rise of .6 of a foot since 7:30 o'clock.

## Fear Loss of Life In Ohio.

Kenton, O., July 16.—The Scioto river was within fifteen inches of the 1913 flood stage here this morning, and still rising, as the result of heavy rains last night. One hundred families have been rescued by boats since 3 o'clock this morning. The town of Poraker on the Scioto marsh is under water caused by a break in the river bank. It was feared lives may have been lost there.

## U-51 DESTROYED OVER THE WINDAU

Under-Sea Terror Reported  
Sunk by Russian Warships.

Intrepid Divers Meet Death in  
the Black Sea.

## LONG A SCOURGE OF ALLIES

Eluded Blockade, Passing Thru  
Strait of Gibraltar.

Credited With Bagging Many,  
Including Ship Majestic.

London, July 16.—The German submarine U-51 has been sunk in the Black sea by Russian warships, according to information received from Varna, a Bulgarian port on the Black sea, by the Athens correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph company.

The submarine U-51 gained fame by eluding the British blockade and passing through the strait of Gibraltar. It left Wilhelmshaven, the great German base, to operate against the allied fleet in the Dardanelles, and was reported to have been successful in its mission. The U-51 has been credited with sinking

German Campaign in Russian  
Baltic Gains Force.

Further Advances in Poland,  
North of Warsaw.

## FRENCH RETAKE HILL NO. 285

Paris Reports Recovering of  
Ground From Crown Prince.

Italians Force Austrians From  
Mountain Positions.

London, July 16.—The German campaign in the Russian Baltic provinces seems to be gaining force. Berlin today announced that the German troops have crossed the Windau, north of Koltynian, in the eastward march.

Further advances by the Teutonic forces are reported in Poland north of Warsaw, the German official statement recording progress southeast of Kolno and south of Przasnysz, where their troops are reported "fighting victoriously."

The latest Russian statement de-

Only Eight Per Cent of Delin-  
quents From the Country.

Poor Homes and Environment  
Chief Contributing Causes.

## WYANDOTTE COUNTY LEADS STATE IN NUMBER OF INCORRIGIBLES.

Big Majority in Industrial  
School There for Theft.

Ninety-two per cent of the bad boys of the state come from the towns and cities, while the rural districts contribute one-twelfth of the incorrigible and delinquent boys of the state. That is the statement of J. W. Howe, secretary of the state board of control,

who bases his assertion on figures from the records of the Boys' Industrial school at Topeka. Following out his line of argument, Howe declares that most of the wayward girls were sent to Beloit from the large towns. Records from the report of the Boys' Industrial school for the year

## NEW YORK GAINS A HALF MILLION.

New York, July 16.—New York's population increased by almost half a million in the last five years. To be exact, the actual growth of the greater city from the day the national census takers finished their work in 1910 until June 15 last, when the enumerators started in, was 478,729, an increase of something more than 10 per cent.

New York had a population of 5,246,812 on June 15, as compared with 4,766,883 in 1910. The figures in Brooklyn may be increased by about 5,000.

## NEW U. S. PLUNGER

American Submarine Can Cross  
Ocean and Return.

Navy Plans to Adopt New Long  
Cruise Type.

New York, July 16.—A submarine that can cross the Atlantic ocean and return to New York without stopping for fuel is soon to be added to the United States navy.

The new boat, the G-3, is undergoing final tests at the plant of the Lake Torpedo Boat company of Bridgeport, Conn., its builders. It has proved a cruising radius of 3,500 miles at a speed of 11 knots an hour. At a lower rate of speed it can go even farther without replenishing its supply of fuel.

Seven other submarines are under construction at the Lake Torpedo Boat company's yards. They are even more up-to-date than the G-3. They have the same wide cruising radius.

All the new boats burn heavy oil. They are equipped with an imported Swiss engine. The designs have been secured, however, and hereafter the entire submarine can be made in this country.

The United States government is keeping the specifications of the new engines a secret.

The new submarines, Simon Lake said today, "will be a match for any in the world."

"Could these new submarines warn a merchant vessel before firing on it?" Mr. Lake was asked.

"No," he replied. "Their maximum speed under water is a little more than 10 knots an hour. The Lusitania could make 25 knots an hour easily. A battleship can make more than 20 easily. Some torpedo boat destroyers make well over 30. A submarine obviously cannot compete with them in speed under water. And if the submarine comes to the surface, it will probably be hit. So the submarine has no choice but to stay under."

## DECIDE GAS CASE

Utilities Commission Prepares  
Rate Case Opinion.

Determine Rate Increase Appli-  
cation Late Today.

The public utilities commission will, late this afternoon, announce a decision in the application of the Kansas Natural Gas company, through its receivers, for an increase in rates. The opinion was written by Judge C. F. Foley.

Application for an increase in rates was filed with the commission July 4. Testimony was taken in May concerning the allegation of the gas company receivers that in view of the gas supply at the city, a previous sliding scale increase in rates, based on distance of delivery from the wells,

Some 25 Kansas distributing companies were made respondents in the case, with application by the receivers that they be compelled to repair their mains and prevent leakage. It was also asserted by the receivers that return from the 1914 business showed a loss of \$1,300,000 on rates in force last year.

Permission is also asked of the commission for the cancellation of contracts for gas for commercial purposes.

Receivers for the company stated that the increase in rates was granted, \$600,000 would this year be spent for improvements and betterments. Whether the decision today will enable the making of the gas supply for the city, a previous sliding scale increase in rates, based on distance of delivery from the wells, is not known. R. J. Higgins, city attorney for Kansas City and an attorney in the gas cases, stated that he believed it would be possible to make extensions before fall and increase the gas supply.

## BERLIN HOLDS YANKEE

Man Said to Represent American  
Copper Interests Under Arrest.

Berlin, July 16.—George S. Speets, an American, and understood to represent American copper interests, was arrested here Tuesday and is held at police headquarters on charges that have not been divulged. Speets, who has an American passport and who maintained an office for general brokers, had been under police surveillance for several months. Some doubt exists as to Speets' citizenship and Ambassador Gerard only yesterday while still ignorant of Speets' arrest, had started an investigation regarding the manner in which Speets had obtained and American passport.

The ambassador had communicated with the German authorities on the subject.

Speets Not Known in New York.

New York, July 16.—No one could be found in copper producing circles here today who knew George Speets, under arrest in Berlin, where it was said he represented American copper interest.

## New Bank at Merriam.

Charter for another state bank was granted today when the state charter board approved the application for permission to establish a new bank at Merriam. The new bank is chartered as the Merriam State bank and is capitalized at \$10,000. Incorporators of the new bank, as shown by the charter, are: Gus H. Ehlers, William G. Weaverling, Dr. Charles C. Gaskins, Max Jahner, A. Loftus, Dale C. Larimer, C. C. Ehlers, J. D. Colyer and J. E. Hart. The new bank will be opened for business at once.

## HARRY THAW IS FREED BY COURT; JURY IS UPHELD

Slayer Is Given His Liberty on  
\$35,000 Bond.

State at Once Files a Notice of  
Appeal.

## ALIENISTS RAPPED BY JURIST

Court Throng in Notable Dem-  
onstration of Approval.

Defendant Is Visibly Happy  
Over Judge's Ruling.

New York, July 16.—Harry K. Thaw, adjudged sane last Wednesday by a jury, was given his freedom today by Supreme Court Justice Peter A. Hendricks. Judge Hendricks announced that he had adopted the jury's verdict.

The state immediately served notice of appeal, and Justice Hendricks fixed Thaw's bail at \$35,000 to insure his presence at future proceedings.

A surety company gave the bond. A crowd that numbered hundreds lined the sidewalks and overflowed into the streets around the court house. It cheered and whistled when he appeared on the court house steps.

## Court Convinced of Sanity.

"I have reached a decision in this case," Justice Hendricks said, "and it is based on my own mind, fortified by the action of the jury."

Thaw, sitting comfortably in his chair, his counsel on each side, showed his pleasure. His mother and sister were not in court.

"I hope the action of the state will find some means to correct this. Some other method should be adopted. Gentlemen, I have adopted the verdict of the jury. I declare now that it is the decision of this court that Harry K. Thaw is sane."

## Commitment Now Inoperative.

Edgar Bromberger of the group of lawyers appearing for the state, gave notice of appeal. At a previous conference of counsel in the case it had been made clear that should the court find Thaw sane, the commitment would be inoperative.

## GOVERNOR WOULD KILL

Mississippi's Chief Executive Threat-  
ens to Cut Throat of Assailant.

Wesson, Miss., July 16.—During a joint debate here Governor Brewer informed State Senator Russell that if the latter again made the charge that he (Brewer) had stolen a bill pending in the legislature he would cut Russell's throat from ear to ear.

Russell had intimated that the governor had something to do with the mysterious disappearance of a bill. The governor walked up to Russell and speaking in a low tone made his threat.

Russell retorted:

"You can try that whenever you get ready."

Standing squarely between the speaker and the audience Governor Brewer said:

"Whenever you make the charge I am going to do it. If you don't believe it, the charge, and I'll show you better than I can tell you."

Russell did not repeat the charge.

## WICHITA GAS CASE.

Public Utilities Commission Listens to  
Arguments.

The public utilities commission today heard arguments in the case concerning the enforcement of the Wichita gas ordinance. Evidence in the case was taken at a special hearing in Wichita several weeks ago.

Some time ago the Wichita city commission passed an ordinance which permitted an independent gas company to sell gas to large consumers in a restricted district. Consumers were required under the ordinance to use not less than 25,000 cubic feet of gas daily. The ordinance was regarded by the Wichita Natural Gas company as an invasion of its franchise privilege and the utilities commission was appealed to in an effort to set aside the city enactment. Arguments in the case will be concluded today and a decision will be announced in the next ten days.

## Texas Oldest 'Newsie' Dead.

Lampasas, Tex., July 16.—When C. A. Juhlin died here recently, Texas lost its "oldest newsboy." He was a Swedish native and a university graduate. In his younger days he "globe trotted," but for many years he had been a familiar figure with his papers here in all kinds of weather.

## PRUSSIAN LOSSES 1,504,523.

London, July 16.—The last sixteen Prussian casualty lists contain the names of 94,747 officers and men killed and wounded, making the total Prussian losses to the end of June 1,504,523, according to a Berne dispatch to the Morning Post.

The dispatch also included 161 Saxon casualty lists, 198 Bavarian lists, 211 Wurttemberg lists and 35 naval lists.

Of 40,000 German national school teachers under arms, 4,900 have been killed in battle.

## HOW MANY RODENTS HAVE WE?



ing several vessels belonging to the allies, including the British battleship Majestic.

The British blockading fleet off Gibraltar was reported to have been warned of the approach of the U-51, but failed to catch the underwater craft, which went from Gibraltar to the Dardanelles, where she did much to prevent the allies' warships from co-operating with the land forces on the Gallipoli peninsula. Later the U-51 passed through the Sea of Marmora and reported to the German commander at Constantinople.

If the report of her destruction in the Black sea is true, she evidently went from the Turkish capital through the Bosphorus, probably to operate against the Russian Black sea fleet.

## PLOT TO KILL VENIZELOS

Athens Dispatch Tells of Murderous  
Cabot of Young Turks.

Paris, July 16.—A dispatch to the Havas News agency from Athens says that a private letter received from Constantinople states that the young Turks committee is plotting the assassination of former Premier VenizeLOS of Greece.

The police, the Athens advices state, have taken the necessary measures to protect the life of the former prime minister.

## RUMANIA DEFIES KAISER

Emphatically Refuses Demand For  
Passage of Arms to Turkey.

London, July 16.—The correspondent at Copenhagen of the Exchange Telegraph company quotes the Verwaerts as announcing:

"Rumania has emphatically refused to comply with Germany's demands to allow weapons and ammunition to traverse Rumania for Turkey."

## Weather Forecast for Kansas.

Partly cloudy tonight and Saturday and probably showers.

## Frank Repetto Hanged.

Joliet, Ill., July 16.—Frank Repetto was hanged here today for the murder of Charles Masters, his cell mate, at the penitentiary a year ago.

ending July 1, show that 268 boys sent to the school during the year lived in cities or large towns of the state. The country districts contributed but 24 boys to the state institution.

A study of home conditions of the boys sent to the state school, shows that 240 of the 292 inmates received last year came from poor home conditions.

(Continued on Page Two.)

## BIG WARSHIPS IN DITCH

Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin, With  
Cadets, Navigate Canal.

Panama, July 16.—The Panama canal was used today for the first time by large battleships of the United States navy when the Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin, carrying naval cadets from Annapolis to San Francisco, made the trip from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The battleships compose the academy practice squadron.

The squadron left Cristobal at 10 o'clock this morning and was scheduled to reach Gaillard cut and pass the slide there about 2 o'clock this afternoon. The battleships are due to reach Balboa, the Pacific terminal of the canal, at 6 p. m.

The Panama canal has been used by warships before. The Peruvian gunboat Teniente Rodriguez passed through the waterway on August 17, last year, and a flotilla of American submarines on February 25, of this year, navigated the canal during practice.

## Tallion Loaned to Indians.

Sioux City, Ia., July 16.—Before leaving here Thursday night, John Savage, owner of the Topeka club, announced that "Zeke" Tallion, who has been playing the role of utility man with the Savages this season, had been loaned to Josh Clark, Tallion is a classy fielder, but has not been hitting up to his standard with the Topeka club.

## Baseball Today.

AMERICAN LEAGUE.

New York at Detroit—Both games postponed; rain.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

St. Louis at Philadelphia—Game postponed; rain.